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SEGA
SONIC UNIVERSE™
SHATTERED
#1
BRAND NEW STORY ARC!
SONIC UNIVERSE | 87
Tracy Yardley!
+HERB

Welcome to the Sonic Comic Universe—a world unique & beyond what you know from the SEGA games!
Where Knuckles the Echidna and Amy Rose seek out the final missing Master Emerald shards!

CHARACTER SELECT

SONIC UNIVERSE™

KNUCKLES
GUARDIAN OF THE MASTER EMERALD

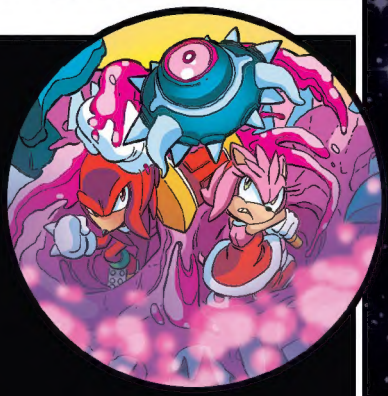
AMY ROSE
HIGH-SPIRITED HEROINE

TEAM DARK
SHADOW, ROUGE & E-123 OMEGA

???

THE STORY SO FAR...

DUAL SEARCH



Recently, Knuckles was forced to shatter the Master Emerald to keep it out of enemy hands!

Now he's hunting down its many pieces. Amy Rose volunteered to lend a hand in finding the shards.

Team Dark—Shadow, Rouge and Omega—recently foiled an alien invasion. They're currently hunting down the aliens' last living weapons—Eclipse and his Dark Arms.

In a twist of fate, both teams will come together to recover what they've lost.
However, some things are best left unfound...

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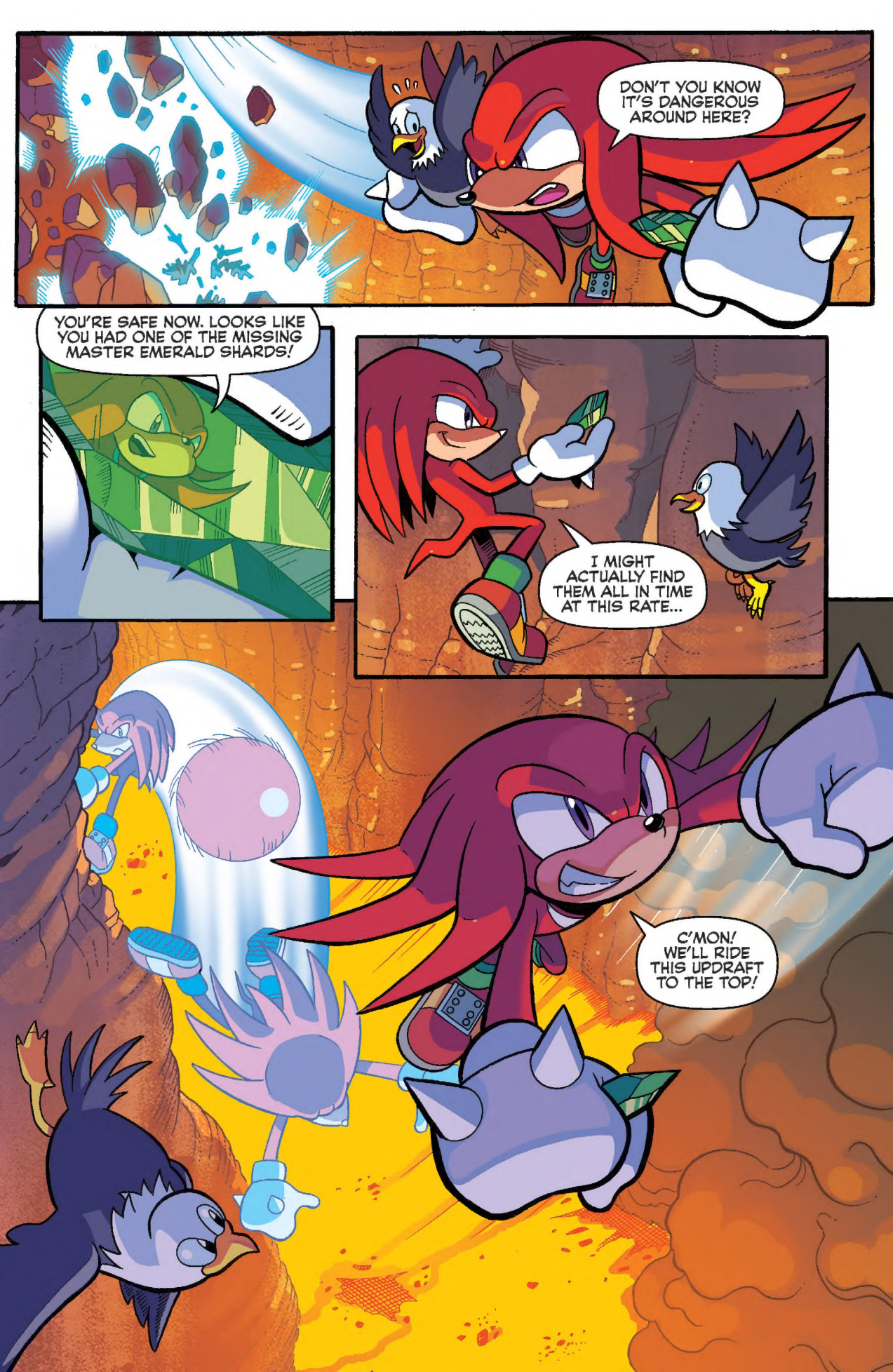
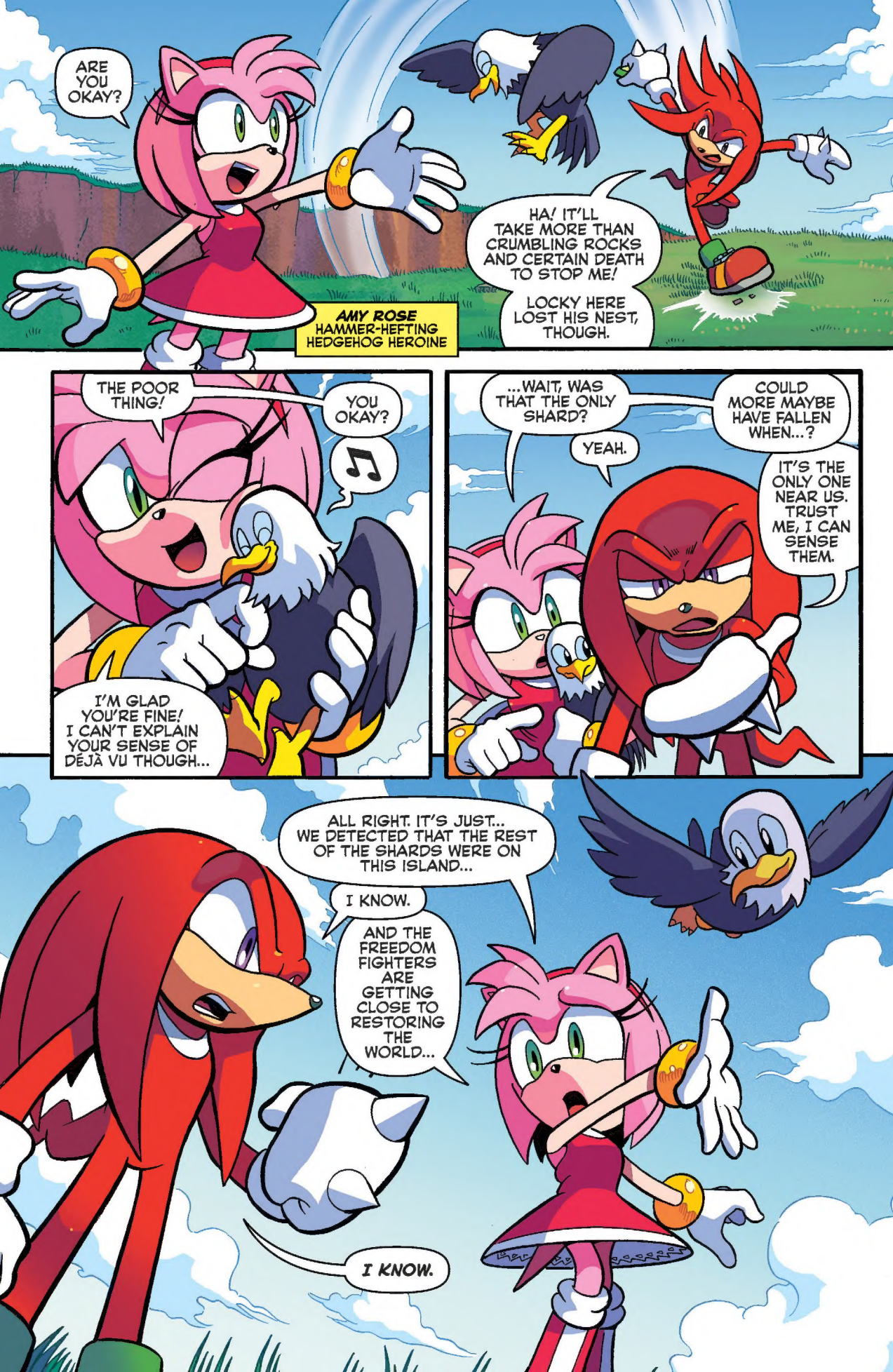
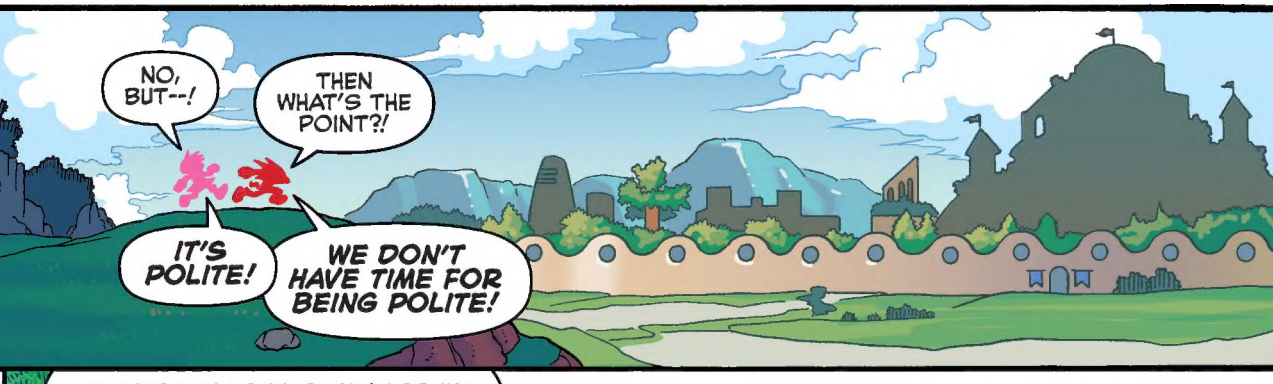

DON'T YOU KNOW IT'S DANGEROUS AROUND HERE?
YOU'RE SAFE NOW. LOOKS LIKE YOU HAD ONE OF THE MISSING MASTER EMERALD SHARDS!
I MIGHT ACTUALLY FIND THEM ALL IN TIME AT THIS RATE...
C'MON! WE'LL RIDE THIS UPDRAFT TO THE TOP!

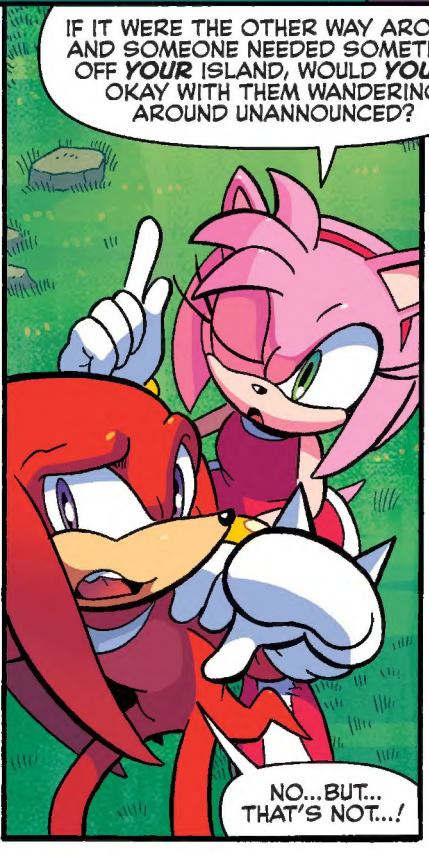

ARE YOU OKAY?
AMY ROSE
HAMMER-HEFTING HEDGEHOG HEROINE
HA! IT'LL TAKE MORE THAN CRUMBLING ROCKS AND CERTAIN DEATH TO STOP ME!
LOCKY HERE LOST HIS NEST, THOUGH.
THE POOR THING!
YOU OKAY?
I'M GLAD YOU'RE FINE! I CAN'T EXPLAIN YOUR SENSE OF DÉJÀ VU THOUGH...
...WAIT, WAS THAT THE ONLY SHARD?
YEAH.
COULD MORE MAYBE HAVE FALLEN WHEN...?
IT'S THE ONLY ONE NEAR US. TRUST ME, I CAN SENSE THEM.
ALL RIGHT. IT'S JUST... WE DETECTED THAT THE REST OF THE SHARDS WERE ON THIS ISLAND...
I KNOW.
AND THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS ARE GETTING CLOSE TO RESTORING THE WORLD...
I KNOW.

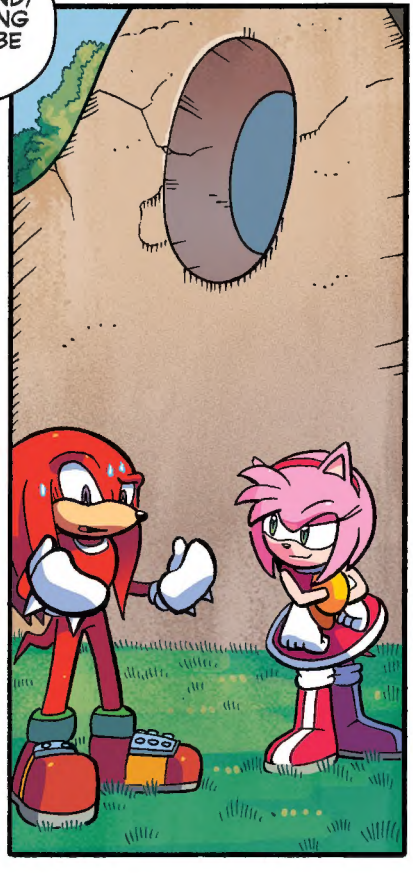
ANGEL ISLAND IS ONLY FLOATING BECAUSE EVERY-THING ELSE IS TOO.
IF WE DON'T RESTORE THE MASTER EMERALD IN TIME, IT'LL FALL STRAIGHT INTO THE PLANET'S MANTLE.
...OR WORSE, ON SOMEWHERE POPULATED...
WE STILL HAVE *SOME* TIME. AND WE'VE TRACKED THE REMAINING SHARDS HERE.
IT'LL BE OKAY. I *PROMISE.*
♪!
SEE? HE AGREES!
ALRIGHT! *ALRIGHT!* LET'S JUST GET MOVING.
RIGHT! OFF TO CASTLE ACORN!

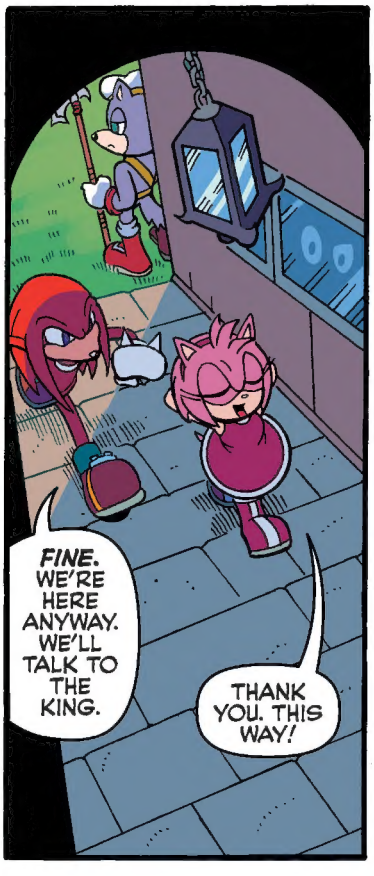
YEAH--ABOUT THAT. DIDN'T WE DECIDE AGAINST IT?
NO, I SAID WE NEED TO SEE THE KING FIRST. YOU SAID YOU DIDN'T WANT TO.
WE STARTED TO ARGUE AND THEN YOU SAID YOU FOUND A SHARD AND RAN OFF!

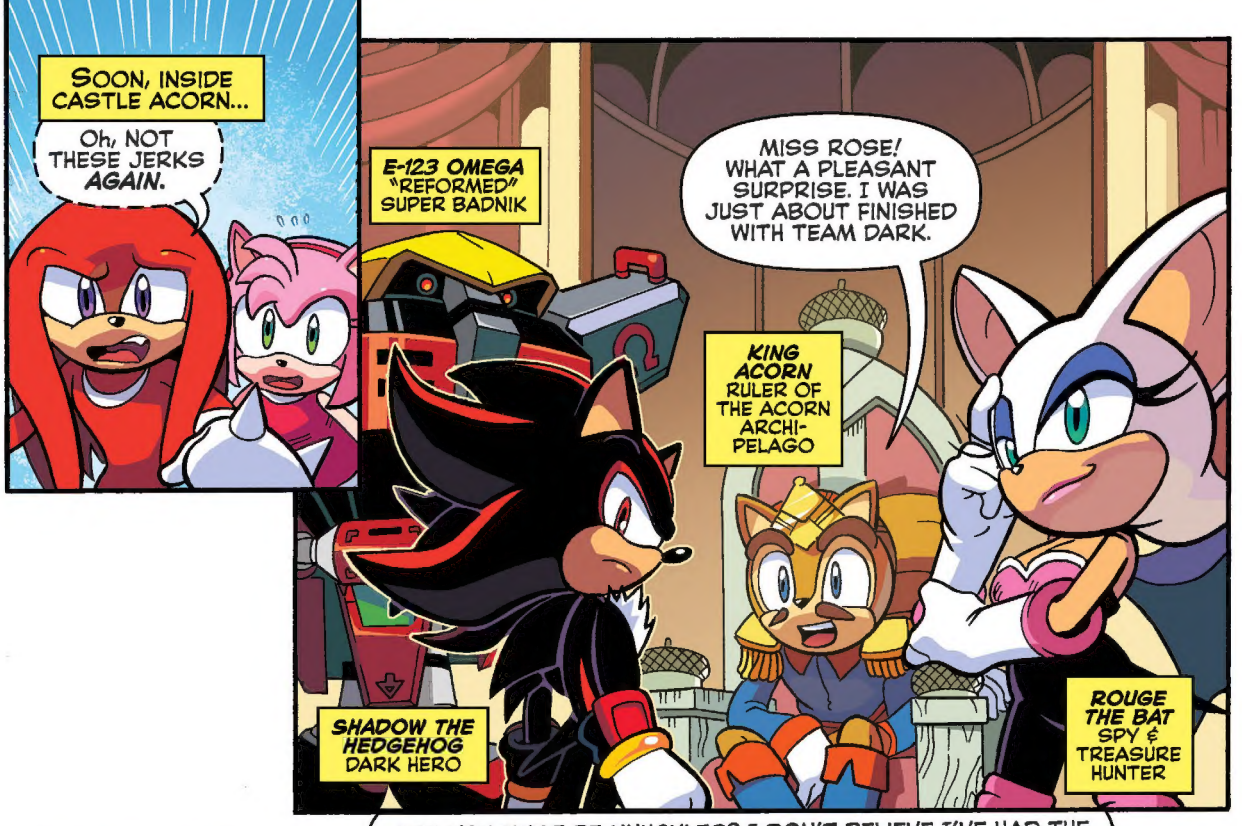
OKAY THEN--I DECIDED AGAINST IT.
WE'RE ON HIS LAND, KNUCKLES!
IT'S ONLY PROPER THAT WE GET HIS BLESSING BEFORE WE GO DIGGING AROUND ON IT!
WHY? WOULD HE TELL US "NO"?


NO, BUT--!
THEN WHAT'S THE POINT?!
IT'S POLITE!
WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR BEING POLITE!


IF IT WERE THE OTHER WAY AROUND, AND SOMEONE NEEDED SOMETHING OFF YOUR ISLAND, WOULD YOU BE OKAY WITH THEM WANDERING AROUND UNANNOUNCED?
NO...BUT... THAT'S NOT...!



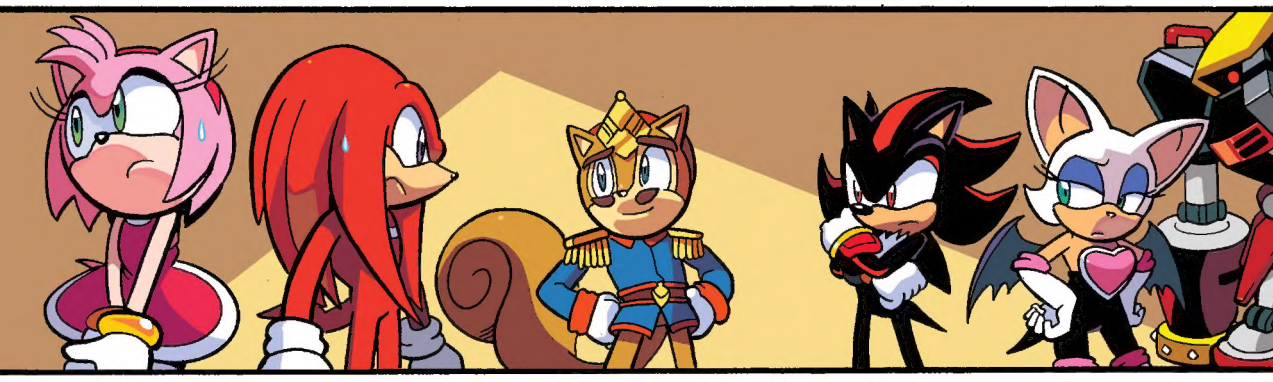

FINE. WE'RE HERE ANYWAY. WE'LL TALK TO THE KING.
THANK YOU. THIS WAY!

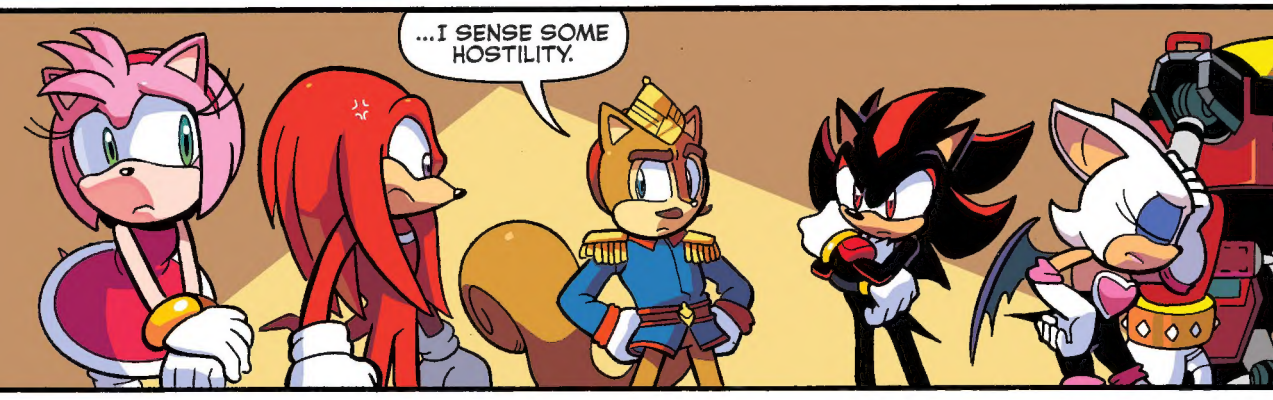

SOON, INSIDE CASTLE ACORN...
Oh, NOT THESE JERKS AGAIN.
E-123 OMEGA "REFORMED" SUPER BADNIK
MISS ROSE! WHAT A PLEASANT SURPRISE. I WAS JUST ABOUT FINISHED WITH TEAM DARK.
KING ACORN RULER OF THE ACORN ARCHI-PELAGO
SHADOW THE HEDGEHOG DARK HERO
ROUGE THE BAT SPY & TREASURE HUNTER

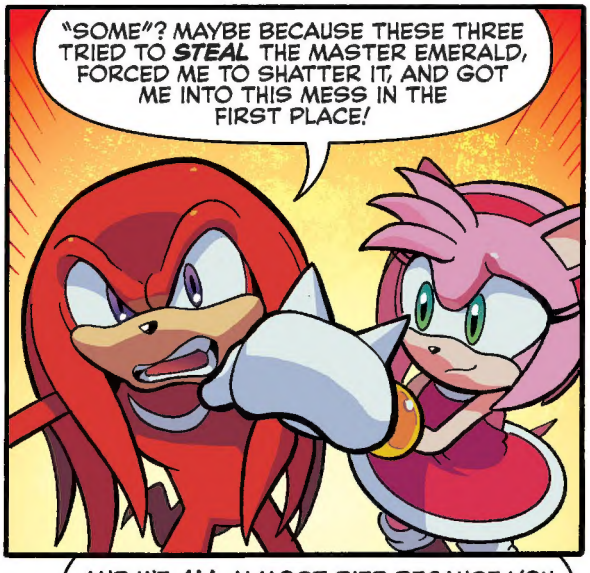
AND YOU MUST BE KNUCKLES? I DON'T BELIEVE I'VE HAD THE PLEASURE. SMASHING DUEL WITH SONIC DURING THE TOURNAMENT!*
Oh, Uh, THANKS. DO I BOW OR...?
A HAND-SHAKE WILL DO.
*STH #268-271

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO MOBOTROPOLIS? I THOUGHT YOU WERE WITH THE OTHER FREEDOM FIGHTERS?
I WAS, BUT I'VE JOINED KNUCKLES ON AN URGENT MISSION. WE CAME TO ASK YOUR PERMISSION TO SEARCH YOUR LANDS FOR THE MASTER EMERALD SHARDS.

REALLY NOW! TEAM DARK WAS ASKING FOR SIMILAR CLEARANCE.
I FEEL ANOTHER TEAM-UP COMING ON! WON'T THAT BE FUN?

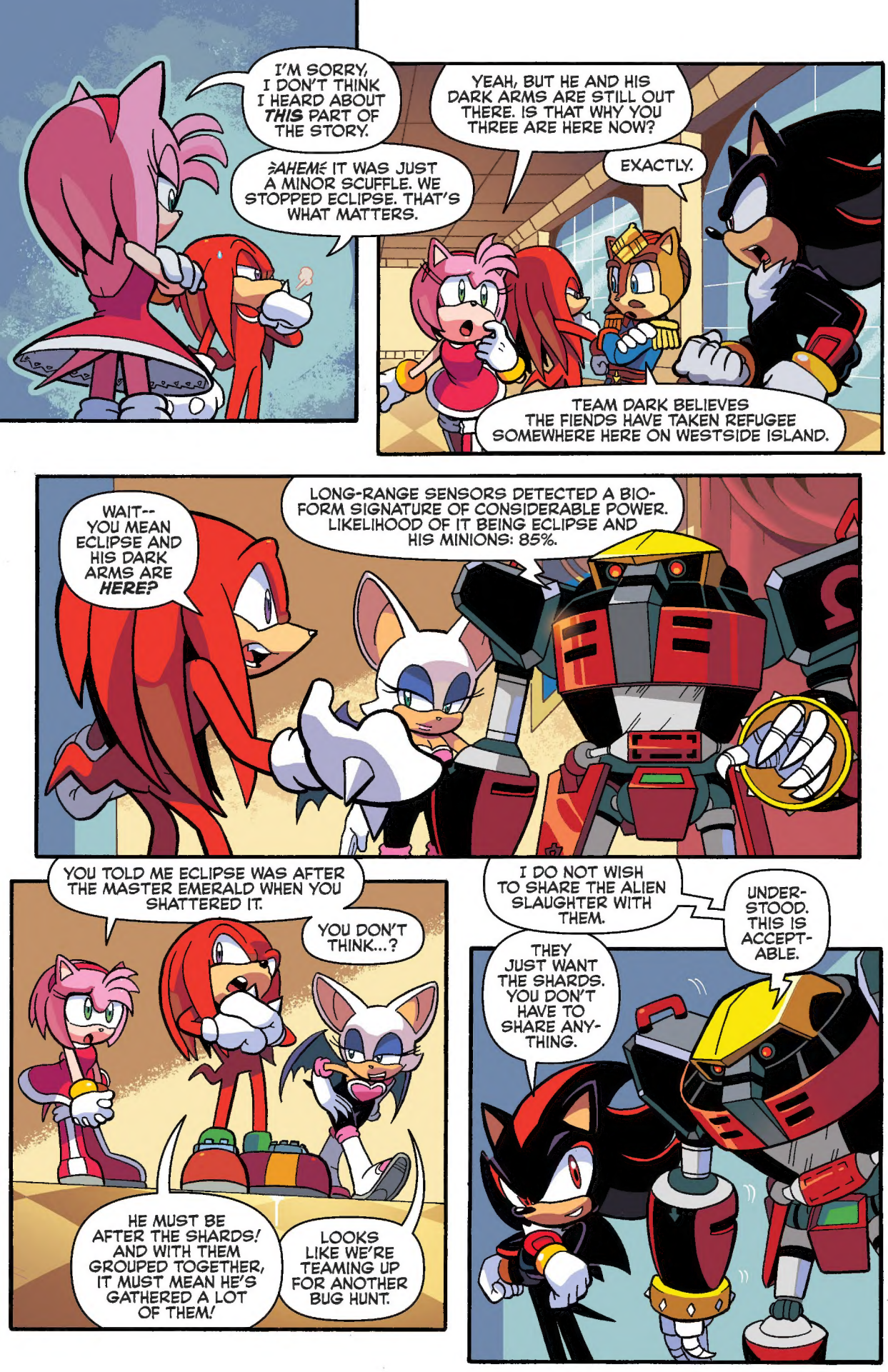



...I SENSE SOME HOSTILITY.

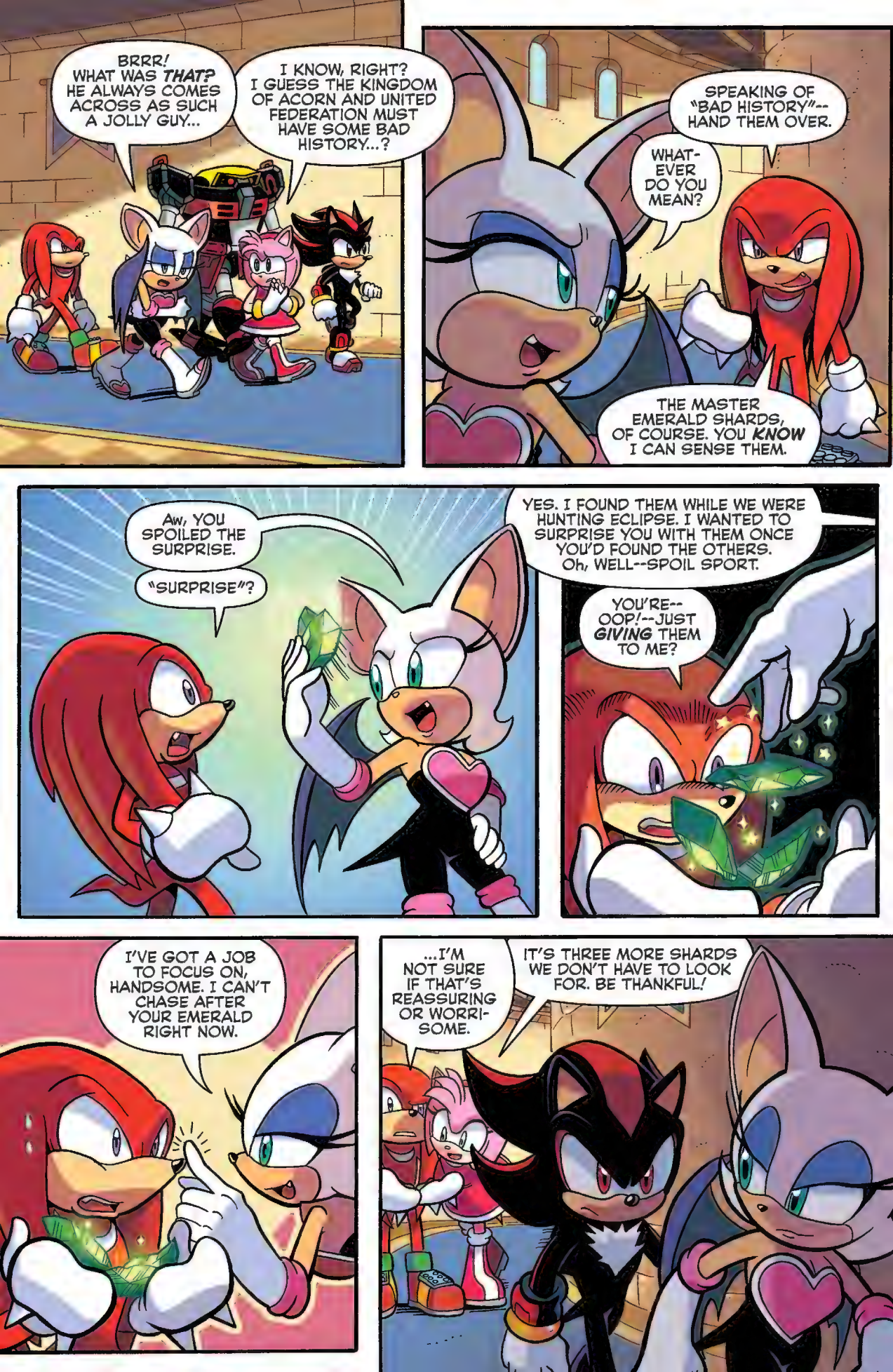

"SOME"? MAYBE BECAUSE THESE THREE TRIED TO ***STEAL*** THE MASTER EMERALD, FORCED ME TO SHATTER IT, AND GOT ME INTO THIS MESS IN THE FIRST PLACE!

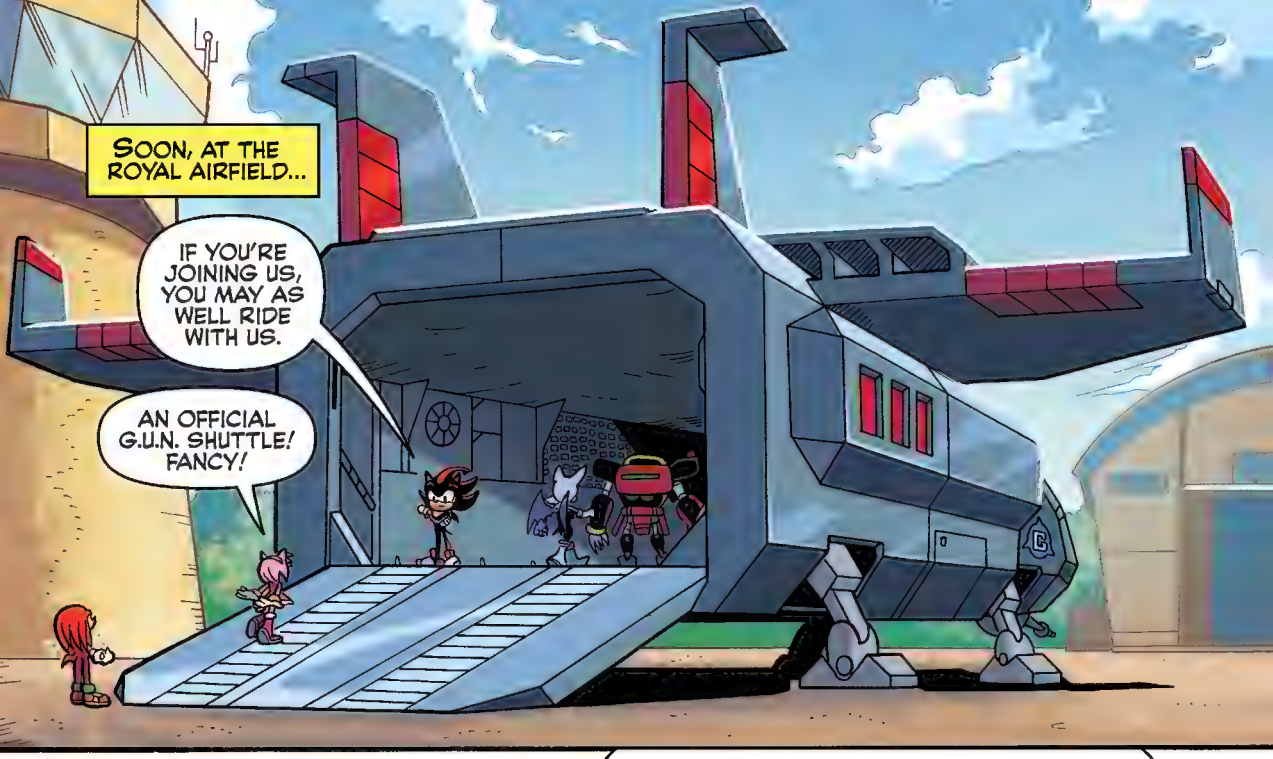
WE WERE TRYING TO ***SECURE*** IT FOR THE SAKE OF THE WORLD.

AND WE ***ALL*** ALMOST DIED BECAUSE YOU TWO GOT DISTRACTED BEATING EACH OTHER UP. BUT THAT'S ***BEHIND*** YOU NOW SINCE THERE'S BIGGER ISSUES AT HAND--***RIGHT?***
...HE CALLED ME A JERK.
YEAH... WELL...YOU ***ARE.***


I'M SORRY, I DON'T THINK I HEARD ABOUT THIS PART OF THE STORY.
AHEM! IT WAS JUST A MINOR SCUFFLE. WE STOPPED ECLIPSE. THAT'S WHAT MATTERS.
YEAH, BUT HE AND HIS DARK ARMS ARE STILL OUT THERE. IS THAT WHY YOU THREE ARE HERE NOW?
EXACTLY.
TEAM DARK BELIEVES THE FIENDS HAVE TAKEN REFUGEE SOMEWHERE HERE ON WESTSIDE ISLAND.
WAIT-- YOU MEAN ECLIPSE AND HIS DARK ARMS ARE HERE?
LONG-RANGE SENSORS DETECTED A BIO-FORM SIGNATURE OF CONSIDERABLE POWER. LIKELIHOOD OF IT BEING ECLIPSE AND HIS MINIONS: 85%.
YOU TOLD ME ECLIPSE WAS AFTER THE MASTER EMERALD WHEN YOU SHATTERED IT.
YOU DON'T THINK...?
HE MUST BE AFTER THE SHARDS! AND WITH THEM GROUPED TOGETHER, IT MUST MEAN HE'S GATHERED A LOT OF THEM!
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE TEAMING UP FOR ANOTHER BUG HUNT.
I DO NOT WISH TO SHARE THE ALIEN SLAUGHTER WITH THEM.
UNDER-STOOD. THIS IS ACCEPT-ABLE.
THEY JUST WANT THE SHARDS. YOU DON'T HAVE TO SHARE ANY-THING.

THEN IT'S SETTLED! ALL WE NEED IS YOUR ROYAL BLESSING AND WE'LL GET TO WORK!
OF COURSE. AND THE OPENNESS OF YOUR REQUEST IS APPRECI-ATED...
...BUT I AM DEEPLY CONCERNED I'M ONLY BEING INFORMED NOW. THE BLACK ARMS THREATENED ALL OF US, AND SO EVERYONE SHOULD BE INFORMED OF THEIR THREAT.
COMMANDER TOWER HAS MY DEEPEST RESPECT. HE HAD DONE MUCH TO REFORM G.U.N., BUT THE OLD REGIME STILL CASTS A LONG SHADOW.
THE G.U.N. OF OLD PUT MY FATHER ON EDGE. IT MADE ME WARY ENOUGH TO TRUST DR. EGGMAN AND DR. SNIVELY ONCE.* I WOULD BE VERY DISAPPOINTED IF THINGS WERE TO SLIP BACK TO THEIR OLD WAYS.
AM I CLEAR?
*SONIC SUPER DIGEST #12
O-OF COURSE. I'LL PASS THAT UP THE CHAIN OF COMMAND.
SMASHING! MISS ROSE, WOULD YOU BE SO KIND AS TO ACT AS THE KINGDOM'S LIAISON DURING THE MISSIONS?
SURE! I MEAN-- YES, YOUR MAJESTY.
YOU HAVE OUR ROYAL THANKS. BE SAFE, AND GOOD LUCK.

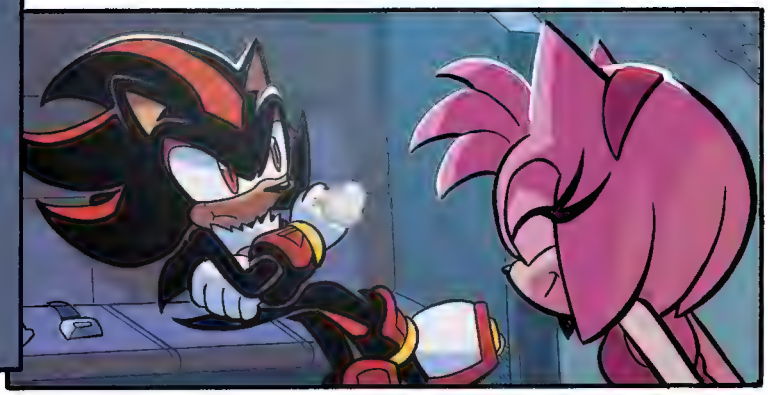

BRRR! WHAT WAS THAT? HE ALWAYS COMES ACROSS AS SUCH A JOLLY GUY...
I KNOW, RIGHT? I GUESS THE KINGDOM OF ACORN AND UNITED FEDERATION MUST HAVE SOME BAD HISTORY...?
SPEAKING OF "BAD HISTORY"--HAND THEM OVER.
WHAT-EVER DO YOU MEAN?
THE MASTER EMERALD SHARDS, OF COURSE. YOU KNOW I CAN SENSE THEM.
Aw, YOU SPOILED THE SURPRISE.
"SURPRISE"?
YES. I FOUND THEM WHILE WE WERE HUNTING ECLIPSE. I WANTED TO SURPRISE YOU WITH THEM ONCE YOU'D FOUND THE OTHERS. Oh, WELL--SPOIL SPORT.
YOU'RE--OOP!--JUST GIVING THEM TO ME?
I'VE GOT A JOB TO FOCUS ON, HANDSOME. I CAN'T CHASE AFTER YOUR EMERALD RIGHT NOW.
...I'M NOT SURE IF THAT'S REASSURING OR WORRI-SOME.
IT'S THREE MORE SHARDS WE DON'T HAVE TO LOOK FOR. BE THANKFUL!


SOON, AT THE ROYAL AIRFIELD...
IF YOU'RE JOINING US, YOU MAY AS WELL RIDE WITH US.
AN OFFICIAL G.U.N. SHUTTLE! FANCY!

DON'T GET COMFORTABLE. WE'RE ONLY BRINGING YOU FOR THE SAKE OF CONVENIENCE.

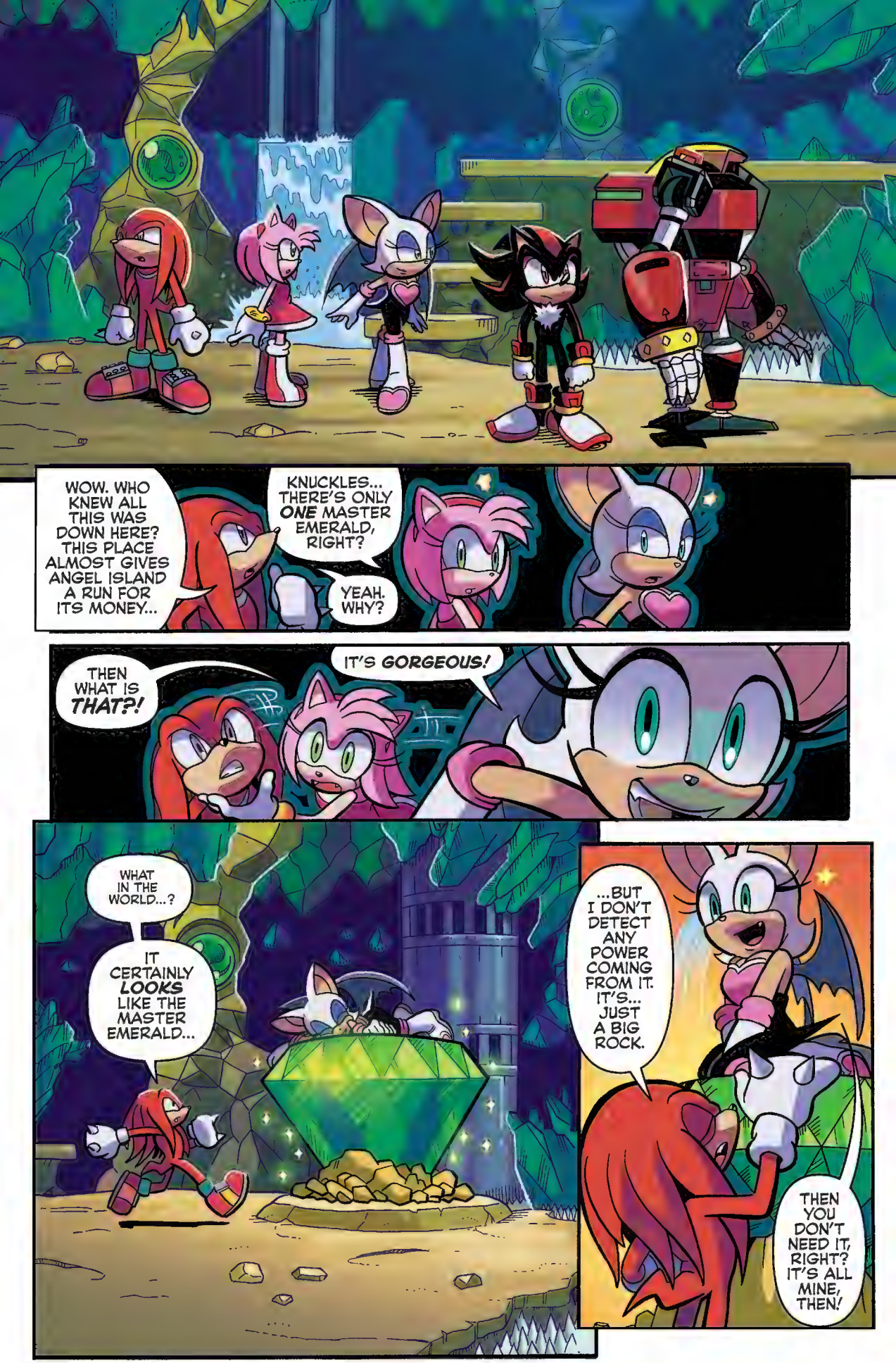
DON'T BE MEAN! THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS ARE WORKING REALLY HARD TO GET EVERYTHING NEEDED TO FIX THE PLANET!

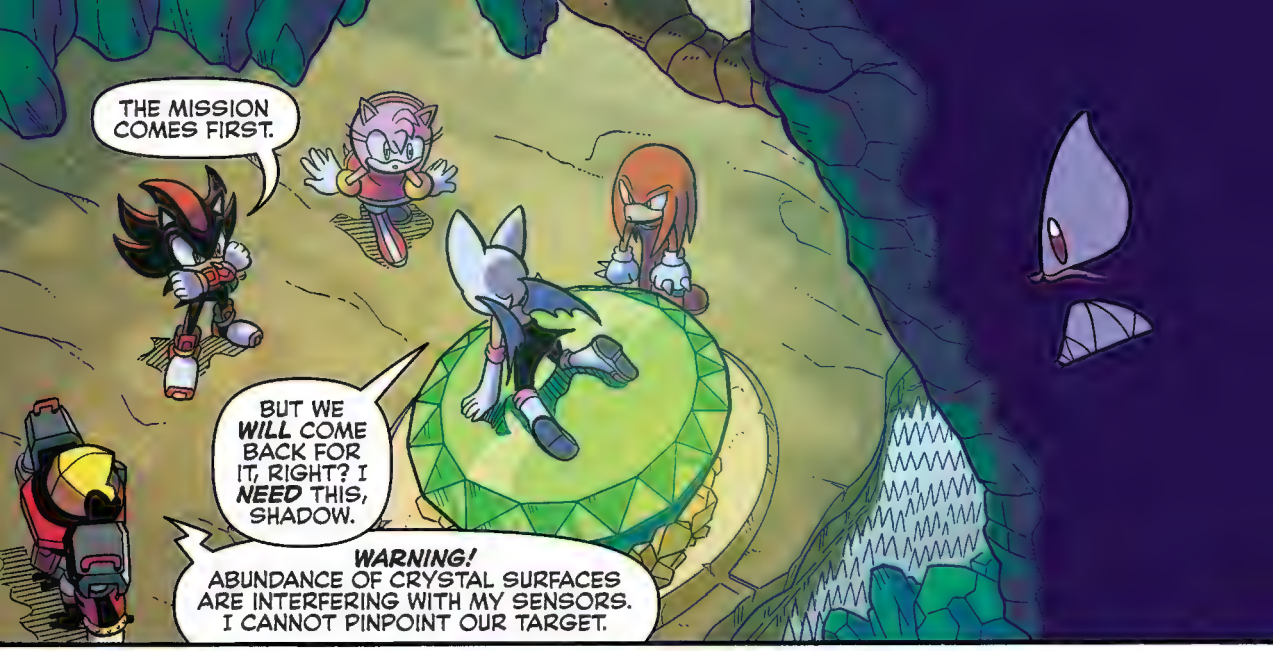
SO SONIC IS RUNNING TO THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE MAP, HAVING ADVENTURES AND SAVING THE WORLD...*AGAIN*..?
JEALOUS?

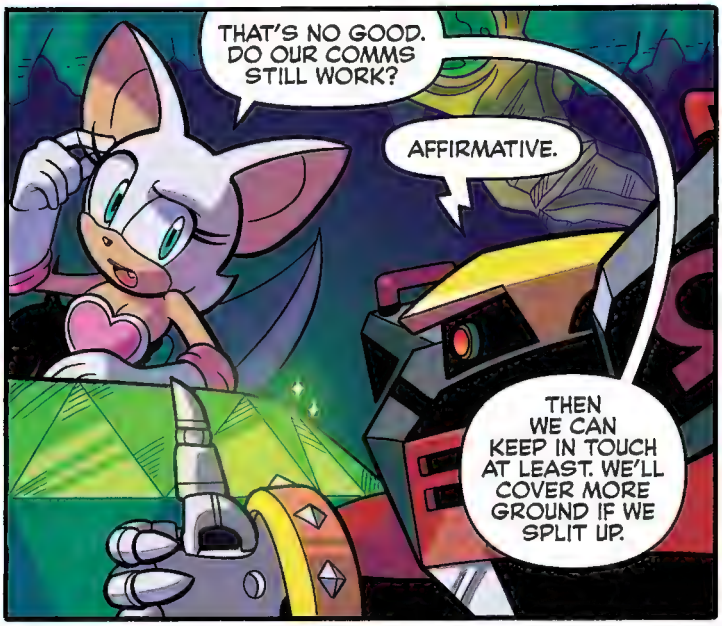


WHAT ABOUT THE REST OF G.U.N.?
ARE THEY ALL LOOKING FOR ECLIPSE TOO?
NO. THE AIR FLEET HAS BEEN DEPLOYED TO THE SEVEN LARGEST CHUNKS OF THE SHATTERED WORLD.
THEIR PERSONNEL ARE HANDLING FALLOUT FROM THE CONTINENTAL SPLITS, PROVIDING SURVIVAL GEAR TO THOSE DISPLACED BY THE CRISIS, AND SO ON.
THE MECHANICAL FORCES KEEP THE PEACE WHEN NIGHT FALLS AND THE DARK GAIA ENERGY CAUSES...DISTURBANCES.
G.U.N.
WOW. ALL THAT ALMOST MAKES OUR EFFORTS SOUND TRIVIAL.
Hmph. G.U.N. WILL KEEP THE WORLD SECURE WHILE SONIC AND THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS SAVE IT. THAT IS ALL THERE IS TO IT.
WHICH LEAVES JUST ME AND AMY TO SAVE ANGEL ISLAND...

SOON-- MYSTIC CAVE ZONE
KEEP YOUR GUARD UP.
WE ARE ON A "SHOOT FIRST, ASK QUESTIONS NEVER" POLICY.
THAT'S "ASK QUESTIONS LATER."
MY WAY IS MORE SUCCINCT.
BIOFORM SIGNATURE DETECTED FURTHER DOWN.
KNUCKLES?
I CAN SENSE THE LAST THREE SHARDS... THEY'RE DOWN THERE.

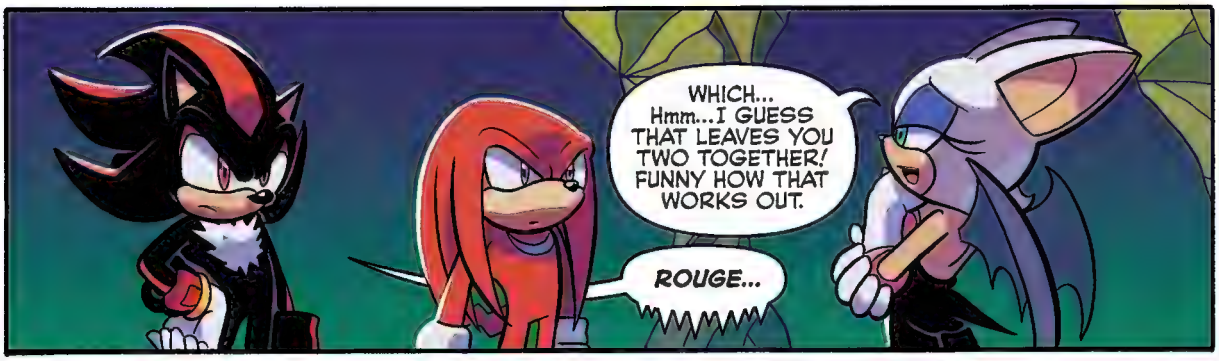

WOW. WHO KNEW ALL THIS WAS DOWN HERE? THIS PLACE ALMOST GIVES ANGEL ISLAND A RUN FOR ITS MONEY...
KNUCKLES... THERE'S ONLY ONE MASTER EMERALD, RIGHT?
YEAH. WHY?
THEN WHAT IS THAT?!
IT'S GORGEOUS!
WHAT IN THE WORLD...?
IT CERTAINLY LOOKS LIKE THE MASTER EMERALD...
...BUT I DON'T DETECT ANY POWER COMING FROM IT. IT'S... JUST A BIG ROCK.
THEN YOU DON'T NEED IT, RIGHT? IT'S ALL MINE, THEN!

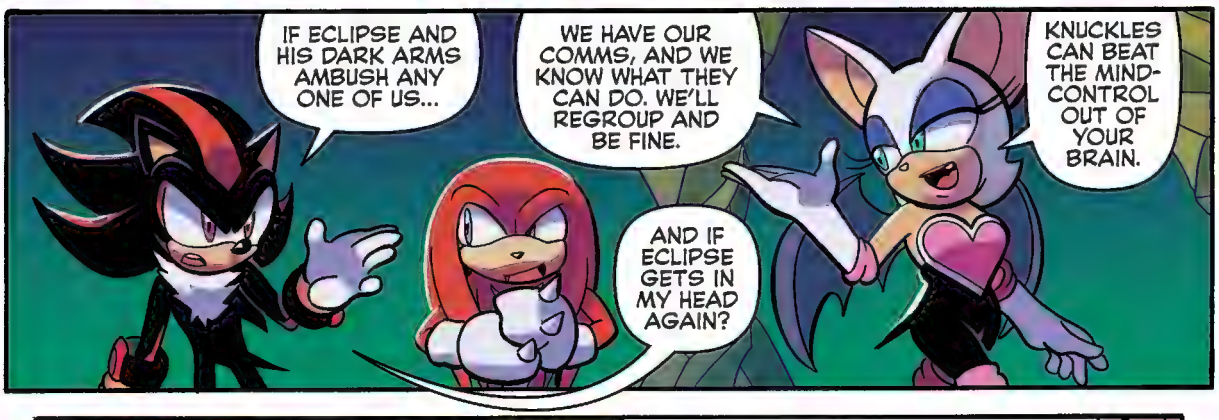

THE MISSION COMES FIRST.
BUT WE *WILL* COME BACK FOR IT, RIGHT? I *NEED* THIS, SHADOW.
WARNING! ABUNDANCE OF CRYSTAL SURFACES ARE INTERFERING WITH MY SENSORS. I CANNOT PINPOINT OUR TARGET.


THAT'S NO GOOD. DO OUR COMMS STILL WORK?
AFFIRMATIVE.
THEN WE CAN KEEP IN TOUCH AT LEAST. WE'LL COVER MORE GROUND IF WE SPLIT UP.

AMY COMES WITH ME. IT'S ONLY RIGHT THE KING'S LIAISON KEEP AN EYE ON THE SUPER-SHADY SPY, RIGHT?
HAHA! WELL, I... YOU SAID IT, NOT ME!

OMEGA, YOU CAN HANDLE YOURSELF. IF YOU FIND THE TARGETS FIRST, *TRY* TO LEAVE SOME FOR THE REST OF US.
NO PROMISES. I AM PACKING HEAVY ORDINANCE.

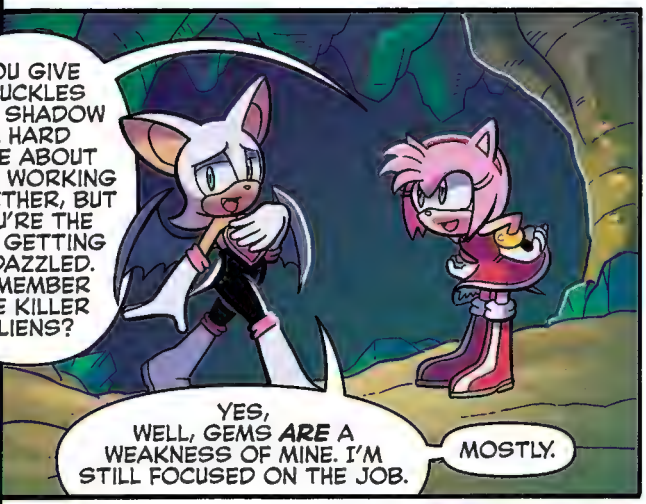

WHICH... Hmm...I GUESS THAT LEAVES YOU TWO TOGETHER! FUNNY HOW THAT WORKS OUT.
ROUGE...

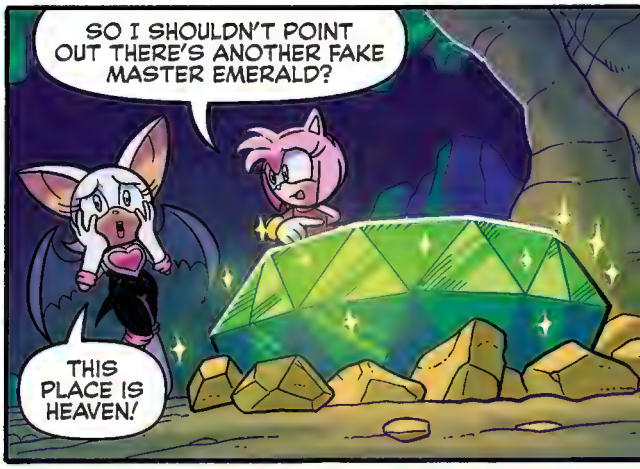

IF ECLIPSE AND HIS DARK ARMS AMBUSH ANY ONE OF US...
WE HAVE OUR COMMS, AND WE KNOW WHAT THEY CAN DO. WE'LL REGROUP AND BE FINE.
KNUCKLES CAN BEAT THE MIND-CONTROL OUT OF YOUR BRAIN.
AND IF ECLIPSE GETS IN MY HEAD AGAIN?

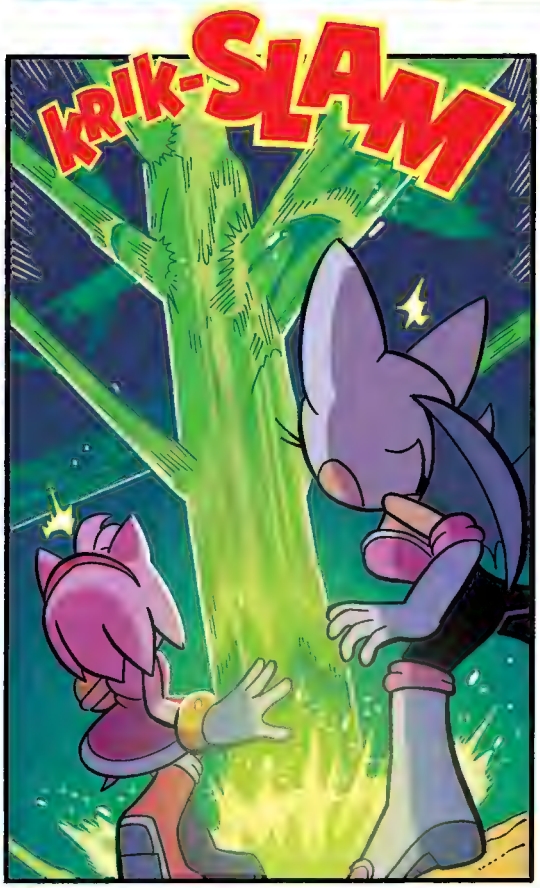
SERIOUSLY?
NO. I KNOW IT GOT DICEY LAST TIME. BUT ECLIPSE AND HIS MONSTERS HAVE TO BE WEAK FROM HUNGER NOW. WE'LL BE CAREFUL.

PLUS, KNUX IS THE LAST ECHIDNA. YOU NEED TO MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T GO EXTINCT BEFORE HE RESTORES THE MASTER EMERALD!
PLAY NICE, YOU TWO!

SOON...
EVEN THE BRIDGE IS MADE OF GEM-STONES! SO MANY BAUBLES, SO LITTLE TIME...


YOU GIVE KNUCKLES AND SHADOW A HARD TIME ABOUT THEM WORKING TOGETHER, BUT YOU'RE THE ONE GETTING BEDAZZLED. REMEMBER THE KILLER ALIENS?
YES, WELL, GEMS ARE A WEAKNESS OF MINE. I'M STILL FOCUSED ON THE JOB.
MOSTLY.


SO I SHOULDN'T POINT OUT THERE'S ANOTHER FAKE MASTER EMERALD?
THIS PLACE IS HEAVEN!


KRIK-SLAM

KRIK-SHNK
KRIK-SHNK
KRIK-SHNK

SENSOR STILL BEING SCRAMBLED BY MULTIPLE, GLITTERY SURFACES. DESTROYING ALL SURFACES WOULD RECTIFY PROBLEM.
LIKELIHOOD OF CAUSING FATAL CAVE-IN: 99%. THIS WOULD LOSE TEAM DARK AND HANGERS-ON. THIS WOULD TERMINATE BIOFORM TARGET.
WEIGHING OPTIONS...
YOU'RE ONE OF DR. EGGMAN'S, AREN'T YOU?
NEGATIVE! I AM NOT AFFILIATED WITH DR. EGGMAN! TARGETING!
PROCESSING. YOU ARE NOT ECLIPSE.
FWASH

A MINUTE AGO YOU SAID THE SHARDS WERE ABOVE US.
YEAH, WELL, THEY KEEP MOVING. IF YOU WEREN'T SLOWING ME DOWN, I MIGHT'VE FOUND THEM BY NOW.

I'M SLOWING YOU DOWN?
GRR...LOOK, CAN WE NOT GIVE ROUGE THE SATISFACTION OF ANOTHER LECTURE? LET'S JUST FIND THE SHARDS, FIND YOUR ALIEN AND FINISH THIS!

AGREED. I WILL FINISH ECLIPSE. BUT THE SECURITY OF ANGEL ISLAND WILL REMAIN AS LAUGHABLE AS EVER.
I WAS DOING FINE UNTIL DR. EGGMAN CAME AROUND.

EASY THERE, STRANGERS! NO NEED FOR A FUSS!

SORRY IF I STARTLED YOU. I'M NIXUS!
I COULDN'T HELP BUT OVERHEAR YOUR...CONVERSATION. NOW--I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ANY ALIENS, BUT I'VE BEEN HUNTING SOME MASTER EMERALD SHARDS MYSELF.
WAIT-- WHAT??!
WHO IS THIS KNUCKLES-LOOKING GUY?! AND WHY IS HE LOOKING FOR THE SHARDS? AND WHAT'S BECOME OF AMY, ROUGE AND OMEGA? ALL THIS AND MORE-- NEXT TIME!
UNTIL THEN, DON'T MISS OUT ON ALL THE ACTION IN SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, SONIC SUPER DIGEST AND THE GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY!

Letter from the EDITOR

Editorial commentary that's tougher than the rest of 'em!

ABOVE: Cover thumbnail by yours truly and finished inks/color study by Tracy Yardley.

ABOVE: Variant cover mock-up by yours truly and in-progress renders by Rafa Knight.

Let's get crackin'!

The race is on for Knuckles and Amy to restore the Master Emerald and save Angel Island from a potentially horrible fate! Will the inclusion of Team Dark bring luck to our heroes, or will Knuckles and Shadows' egos get the best of them once again? And who is this Nixus?!

I can't say! But I can tell you that we have a series of awesome variant covers for this story arc! Each issue within the "Shattered" storyline features one of four "& Knuckles" variant covers! Visit your local comic shop to get yours **TODAY**!

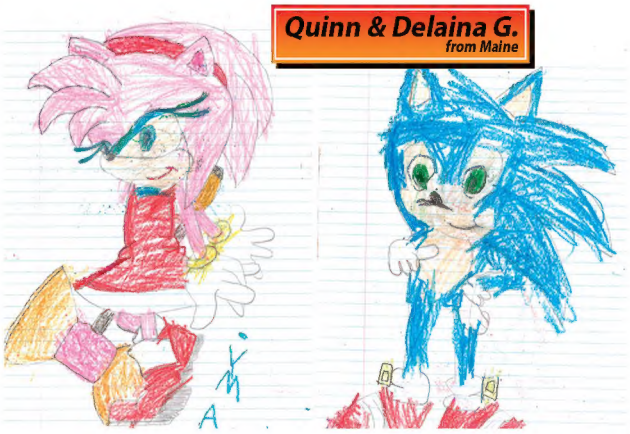
Peace out!

– Vincent "Vin" Lovallo
Editor

MY SONIC UNIVERSE™ FAN ART

Kin G.
from Georgia

Amelio W.
from California



Quinn & Delaina G.
from Maine

Gianna T.
from Washington

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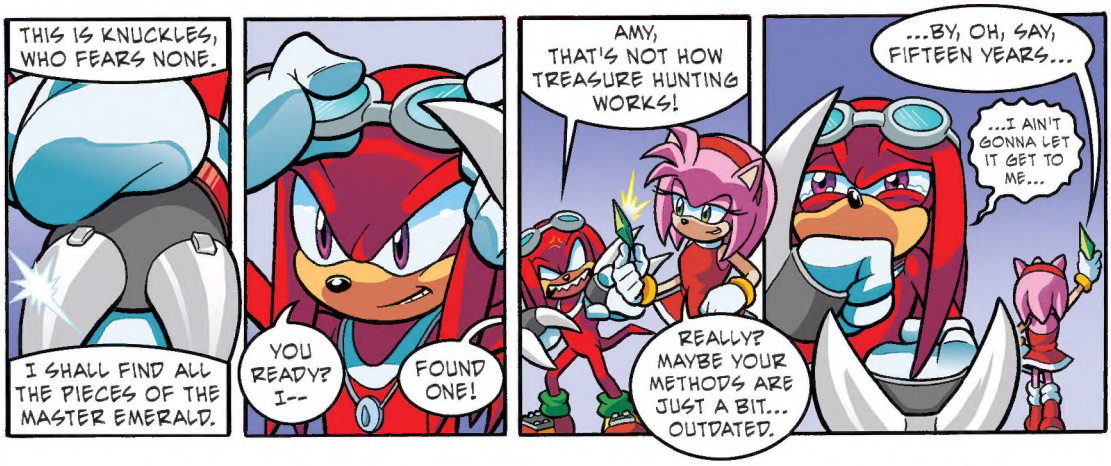
E-MAIL: SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM – OR TWEET AT US USING #SONICGRAMS!

OFF PANEL — KNOCK KNOCK AT KNUCKLES



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NEXT ISSUE: SONIC UNIVERSE 88

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